

CLASSIFICATION SECRETCOUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

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TOPIC Winter Exercises of the 6th Gds Mecz Div

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 19 April 1955

REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. At 0030 on 21 March 1955, a train which carried approximately 35 trucks, 5 tank trucks, 6 radio and repair shop trucks, 1 field kitchen and, on about 5 boxcars, personnel, left Bernau toward Eberswalde. At 1100, 9 armored personnel carriers, 1 BA-64 armored scout car, 2 sidecar motorcycles, approximately 30 trucks, 8 jeeps, 1 ambulance, radio and repair shop trucks, 4 field kitchens and 9 boxcarloads of soldiers were entrained at the Bernau railroad station.

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The former Army Clothing Depot I (4244) in Bernau was not occupied to capacity. Elements with AT guns and rocket launchers were absent. An empty train which consisted of flatcars and boxcars was seen on the spur track in the installation.

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The Luftnachrichten Kaserne (4241) in Bernau was not occupied to capacity.

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On 19 March, 12 x 37-mm AA guns, 76-mm AA guns and trucks were seen ready to depart in the SS Brieftaubenstation (4243) in Bernau. The AAA emplacement in the installation was unoccupied.

2. On 24 March, a shipment including 3 x 100-mm AT guns, 3 tractors, approximately 35 trucks, radio and repair shop trucks, 2 field kitchens and approximately 13 boxcarloads of soldiers was entrained at the Bernau railroad station and left toward Eberswalde at 2145. Subsequently, a second shipment of 4 guns, approximately 35 trucks, 2 repair shop trucks, 1 radio truck, 2 field kitchens and approximately 12 boxcarloads of soldiers was entrained and left in the same direction at 0030. The units on both trains had come from Army Clothing Depot I. On 25 March, this installation was occupied by approximately 1,000 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. The quarters were only partially lighted at dusk.

3. At about 1800 on 20 March, 7 x 120-mm mortars, 28 trucks, 1 radio truck, 2 field kitchens and some 150 soldiers from the west section of the Artillerie Kaserne (4341) in Eberswalde were entrained at the Eberswalde railroad station. At 0145 on 21 March, some 15 trucks, 1 radio truck and 4 field kitchens left the same section

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of the installation. At 1545, 3 tanks, 4 AA guns, 6 six-wheel armored personnel carriers, 15 trucks, 2 field kitchens and approximately 120 soldiers from the west section of the installation were entrained. At 1845, other elements from the installation which were entrained at the Eberswalde railroad station included 1 x 37-mm AA gun, 4 armored personnel carriers, 4 radio trucks, 3 tank trucks, 12 trucks, 2 field kitchens and approximately 270 soldiers.

4. At 1500 on 21 March, at least 6 armored personnel carriers, some 20 trucks, jeep [redacted] and some 100 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets were entrained at the Eberswalde railroad station. At 1530, 3 JS-2 tanks were presumably entrained. 25X1

5. On 20 and 21 March, Soviet units were detrained at the Klinge railroad station east of Cottbus. During the night of 21/22 March, 4 shipments including T-34 tanks, medium AT guns, armored personnel carriers, numerous trucks and soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets were unloaded at the Forst railroad station. The shipments had come from the direction of Cottbus and left toward Heinersbrueck. Additional shipments were allegedly unloaded in Doebern during the same night. This was confirmed by a railroadman in Forst, according to which 2 shipments went to Doebern and 4 shipments to Forst. 25X1

6. At 0900 on 28 March, a train carrying 8 x 76-mm field guns, 6 x 120-mm mortars, 6 six-wheel armored personnel carriers, 22 trucks, 2 field kitchens and, on 10 boxcars, personnel was seen at the Eberswalde railroad station. At the same time, a shipment of 4 x 76-mm field guns, 6 six-wheel armored personnel carriers, some 20 trucks and 10 boxcars with soldiers was seen at the Eberswalde freight station. At 1830, a train carrying 12 x 37-mm AA guns, some 20 trucks, 3 field kitchens and, on 10 boxcars, soldiers was seen at the Biesenthal railroad station headed toward Bernau.
7. At 1700 on 28 March, a train which carried 12 x 85-mm AT guns, some 20 trucks [redacted] 1 ambulance, 2 field kitchens and several boxcarloads of soldiers was seen at the Greiffenberg railroad station south of Prenzlau. The train was headed toward Prenzlau.² 25X1

8. On 28 March, the following shipments were unloaded at the Bernau railroad station:
1700. Sixteen to 18 x 122-mm field howitzers, some 20 trucks, 1 ambulance, radio and repair shop trucks, 3 field kitchens, sedan [redacted] and some 200 soldiers. 25X1

1900. Approximately 8 six-wheel armored personnel carriers, 15 trucks, including some with pontoons, 1 large amphibious vehicle, 2 radio trucks 2 repair shop trucks, 2 field kitchens and some 200 soldiers.

Troops and materiel left for the Luftnachrichten Kaserne (4241) which was again occupied to capacity on 29 March, while the former Army Clothing Depot I appeared to be only partially occupied. AT, artillery and rocket launcher elements were still absent.¹

1. [redacted] Comment. According to the present report, the 6th Gds Mecz Div, reinforced by elements of the 71st Light Arty Brig, conducted exercises in the Cottbus-Forst area between 22 and 27 March. [redacted] 25X1

[redacted]. Weapons observed during the unloadings in Bernau confirm at the post until 28 March the 676th How Arty Regt and 22d Gds Engr Bn of the division. 25X1

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